

European Communities

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Working Documents

1975-1976

16 June 1975

DOCUMENT 112/75/ANNEX

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OPINION

of the Committee on Budgets

on the proposal from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council (Doc. 97/75) for a regulation setting up a temporary scheme of aids for the private storage of certain fishery products

PE 40.731/fin.

0.2.1

English Edition

EP 75.76; 112 / Annex

Letter from the committee chairman to Mr HOUDET, Chairman of the
Committee on Agriculture

Brussels, 10 June 1975

Dear Mr Chairman,

At its meeting of 9 and 10 June 1975, the Committee on Budgets recorded the following opinion on the proposal for a Council regulation (EEC) setting up a temporary scheme of aids for the private storage of certain fishery products (Doc. 97/75):

In this proposal for a regulation, reference is made as regards the financial implications to Document 178 final of the Commission of the European Communities of 22 April 1975.

This document gives only the following information:

'The costs of this proposal are estimated at 3 million u.a. for the year 1975.

The appropriations provided for in the 1975 budget for interventions amount to 2 million u.a., which will serve to pay the financial compensation.

Any additional expenditure incurred in connection with this proposal will be met by the transfer of appropriations depending on developments in the economic situation.'

In view of the lack of information regarding the probable quantities of fish to which the regulation would apply and the amount of aid to be granted for storage, the Committee on Budgets is unable to deliver a favourable opinion on this proposal.

The persistent failure to provide sufficiently detailed financial information serves only to aggravate the problem which the Committee on Budgets has faced so often in the past, that of delivering an opinion without being in possession of the full facts.

Since the Commission of the European Communities seemingly prefers to ignore this repeated criticism, the Committee on Budgets has no option - should the Commission persist in its attitude - but to recommend to Parliament the automatic rejection of any proposals for regulations which do not contain adequate financial information.

I hope, Mr Chairman, that your committee will appreciate the full import of the negative opinion expressed by the Committee on Budgets on the above grounds.

Yours sincerely,

Erwin LANGE

Present: Mr Lange, chairman; Mr Berkhouwer (deputizing for Mr Houdet), Miss Flesch, Mr Früh, Mr Giraudo (deputizing for Mr Vernaschi), Mr de Keersmaecker (deputizing for Mr Galli), Mr Kirk, Lord Lothian, Mr Shaw and Mr Terrenoire.